

BOROUGH OF REIGATE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
T. H. Bingham, M.D., D.P.H.

Together with the

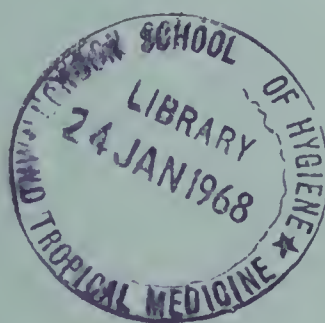
ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
R. Frankham, M.A.P.H.I.

1961

Public Health Department,  
Caberfeigh,  
24 Hatchlands Road,  
Redhill, Surrey  
(Telephone No. Redhill 2265/6)





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(until 30th November, 1961)

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Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods (until 31st May, 1961)

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Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods (from 1st June, 1961)

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JOHN KEMPSHALL

Assistant Pests Officer:

EDWARD E. ARNOULD

Clerks:

VERA KENNEDY

MARY B. WICKENDEN

JANET M. DAVIS (from 1st January, 1961)





BOROUGH OF REIGATE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1961

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To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report on the public health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough of Reigate in the year 1961.

The Report is drawn up generally in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, as indicated in Circular 1/62, and contains the information requested in the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

There was no evidence of unusual or excessive incidence of infectious or other illness in the Borough in 1961. Following its usual cycle of biennial prevalence, measles was widespread in the early part of the year and mainly affected children in the younger age groups. About the same time a considerable number of cases of mild influenza and of colds and non-specific respiratory ailments were reported amongst older members of the population. Otherwise, the case rates for the various notifiable infectious diseases were unusually low. This was especially so as regards the rates for scarlet fever, whooping cough and all forms of tuberculosis, which were the lowest yet experienced. It is also noteworthy that, for the third consecutive year, there was complete freedom from poliomyelitis and that there were relatively fewer cases of bacillary dysentery, food poisoning and other intestinal infections, which have tended to become much more common in recent years. With regard to active prevention, it is again gratifying to record satisfactory rates of acceptance of protective inoculation against the ever increasing range of diseases for which effective immunising agents are now available.

On the whole, the statistical particulars for the year compare very favourably with any previously recorded in the Borough and with those for the country as a whole. The estimated population increment of 3,030 in twelve months and, more particularly, the proportion related to migration into the area, is by far the greatest yet observed and is not explained by any known movement of population. The recorded birth rate of 14.5 coincides with the average rate for the preceding five years and was accompanied by a still-birth rate of 7.3 and an infant mortality rate of 12.6, both being exceptionally low for the Borough and well below the corresponding rates of 19.1 and 21, respectively, for England and Wales in the same period. It will be observed that, of the ten infants who died in their first year, only one survived for more than four weeks.

The recorded general death rate of 11.8 per 1,000 of the estimated population is 1.0 lower than in 1960 and is somewhat below the average for the preceding five years; the adjusted rate of 10.8 compares with the National rate of 12.0. The decline in the Borough death rate in 1961 was, in the main, due to a sharp reduction in mortality from heart disease, notably hypertension and coronary thrombosis, which was not entirely offset by the substantial rise in the number of deaths ascribed to pneumonia, bronchitis and other respiratory infections, and to cancer and malignant disease. With regard to the latter, it may be noted that there was no significant rise in the recorded mortality from lung cancer which has, however, exhibited a definite and sustained upward trend in the Borough, as elsewhere, during the past decade. Attention is again drawn to the relatively large proportion of accidental deaths resulting from injuries sustained by the elderly in accidental falls at home.



Substantial further progress was made in 1961 in implementing the Council's programme for the clearance of unfit dwellings. The first phase, which was completed during the year, involved the demolition or closure of a total of two hundred houses and the re-housing in Council accommodation of roughly the same number of families. While these figures may not be unduly impressive, they represent a very considerable amount of time spent by the staff of the Public Health Department in making the necessary detailed inspection and recording of the properties concerned, interviews and discussions with owners and occupiers affected and the preparation and giving of evidence at public enquiries in support of the Council's action. The inspectorial staff were also required to devote special attention to the review of conditions on existing caravan sites in the Borough to ensure reasonable conformity with the Model Standards prescribed by the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, which came into operation in August of the previous year. There was, however, no relaxation of the routine activities of the public health services in connection with the measures taken to ensure a satisfactory standard of purity and quality of water, milk and food supplies, the prevention of atmospheric pollution, sanitary inspection, duties under the Factories and Shops Acts, disinfection and disinfection and other matters directly concerned with environmental hygiene.

I should like to make very special reference to the retirement on 31st May, 1961, of Mr. Gilbert Janes, on his completing close on thirty-five years in the service of the Corporation, first as District and, subsequently, as Chief Public Health Inspector. He succeeded the late Mr. J.P. Humphrey in the latter post in 1934 and fully maintained the very high standard of zeal and efficiency, and of fearless honesty and integrity, that had characterised his predecessor. Mr. Janes gained the confidence and respect of everyone with whom he came in contact in the course of his official duties and firmly established himself as the very best type of local government officer. I feel privileged and grateful to have had his ready assistance and co-operation over a period of roughly thirty years.

I also gratefully acknowledge my great indebtedness to Mr. R. Frankham, who succeeded Mr. Janes as Chief Public Health Inspector, and my appreciation of the efficient and loyal service of every member of my staff in the year under review. My sincere thanks are due also to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for the support and consideration they have kindly extended to me throughout the year.

I am, Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T.H. BINGHAM

Medical Officer of Health.

Caberfeigh,  
Redhill.

8th August, 1962.





## SECTION I

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (Land and Inland Water)	..	..	..	..	10,255 acres
Population, Census 1961	..	..	..	..	53,710
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-year, 1961	..	..	..	..	54,260
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1961 according to Rate Books	..	..	..	..	15,920
Rateable Value (1st April, 1962)	..	..	..	..	£974,252
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	£3,960

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#### Population

The resident population of the Borough at mid-year, 1961, was estimated by the Registrar General to be 54,260. This represents a population increment of 3,030, or 5.9 per cent., in the preceding twelve months, which greatly exceeds previous estimated increases. The gain by natural increase (i.e. the number by which the live births outnumbered the total deaths) is much above the average, mainly in consequence of a decline in the death rate. The official estimate is appreciably above the provisional population figure of 53,710 enumerated at the census in April, 1961.

#### Births

A total of 790 live births (407 male and 383 female) was assigned to the Borough in 1961. The recorded birth rate for the year was, therefore, 14.5 per 1,000 of the estimated population, which coincides with the average for the preceding five years. When adjusted in the prescribed manner for purposes of comparison, the local birth rate is reduced to 14.1, which compares with a national rate of 17.4 in the same period.

The illegitimacy rate of 49 per 1,000 live births is much above the average for the past ten years.

The six stillbirths registered in 1961 represent a rate of 7.5 per 1,000 total births, which is the lowest yet observed in the Borough and falls well below the corresponding rate of 19.1 for England and Wales. The rate of mortality amongst new-born infants also was exceptionally low.

#### Deaths

A total of 642 deaths (306 of males and 336 of females) occurred amongst persons normally resident in the Borough. The death rate calculated on this total was 11.8 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 12.8 in 1960, and an average rate of 12.5 in the preceding ten years. When adjusted for purposes of comparison, the recorded rate is reduced to 10.8; the death rate for England and Wales in 1961 was 12.0.





The numbers of deaths of each sex in various age groups were as follows:-

<u>Age group</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
0 - 1 year ..	4	6	10
1 - 5 years ..	2	-	2
5 - 10 years ..	2	2	4
10 - 15 years ..	3	3	6
15 - 20 years ..	2	-	2
20 - 30 years ..	2	2	4
30 - 40 years ..	7	3	10
40 - 50 years ..	11	12	23
50 - 60 years ..	51	26	77
60 - 70 years ..	66	40	106
70 - 80 years ..	81	86	167
80 - 90 years ..	62	117	179
90 and upwards ..	13	39	52
	<u>306</u>	<u>336</u>	<u>642</u>

Reference has already been made to the unusually low rate of mortality amongst very young infants. Of the ten who died in their first year, nine failed to survive for one month, including seven who succumbed in the first week. All died in hospital and, for the most part, the deaths were attributed to birth injuries, congenital malformation and acute infection. Relatively fewer deaths were associated with prematurity, which has been the principal cause of neo-natal mortality in recent years.

In some respects the deaths recorded in other age groups showed some variation from the usual pattern. There was, for example, a very striking reduction in the number assigned to all forms of heart disease and, in particular, to coronary disease, angina and hypertension, which have lately figured rather too prominently in the death returns. Another noteworthy feature was the sharp increase in mortality from pneumonia, bronchitis and other respiratory diseases. This affected the sexes almost equally, was practically confined to persons of very advanced age and was not significantly related to any particular period of the year or known adverse environmental circumstances. In rather more than half of these cases the respiratory affection occurred as a complication of long standing chronic illness or as a terminal condition associated with senility.

The death rate for all forms of cancer and malignant disease, though slightly higher than in 1960, is not much above the average for the Borough and falls well below the corresponding rate for the country as a whole. As regards the organs affected, there was a two-fold increase in the number of females who died from malignant growths of the breast and stomach. There were twenty-eight deaths from lung cancer, predominantly amongst males, as compared with twenty-seven in 1960, and an average of twenty per annum in the preceding five years. The mortality rate for this form of the disease in 1961 was 0.43 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as compared with 0.44 in 1960 and a comparable rate of 0.49 for England and Wales.

Six persons were fatally injured in road accidents, as compared with eight in 1960 and seven in each of the preceding two years; only one was a pedestrian. The twenty deaths from other accidental causes included eleven, mostly of elderly women, resulting from accidental falls in the home; the male fatalities under this heading mostly followed injuries sustained in the course of employment or outdoor activity. The fact that three accidental and two suicidal deaths were caused by over-dosage of barbiturates would indicate the need for more stringent control over the supply and use of potentially dangerous drugs of this nature.

The numbers of deaths ascribed to other specific causes are set out in Table III and do not indicate unusual or excessive mortality from any particular cause.



Extracts from the Vital Statistics for the year are set out in Table I and comparative statistics for the years 1934 to 1961 are shown in Table II.

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 47 (As amended by the  
National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951)

It was not necessary to take action under the above-named Section for the compulsory removal to hospital or other suitable premises of persons who were not being properly cared for in their own homes. There were four cases in which it was thought such action might be considered but, after full investigation, it was found possible to meet their essential needs by other means. With the assistance forthcoming from various official and voluntary domiciliary social services, all four were enabled to achieve and maintain a reasonably satisfactory standard of physical comfort and of cleanliness of their surroundings. A notable and valuable feature of the help given in the latter connection was the preliminary cleansing by the Public Health Department of premises that had become so grossly insanitary and neglected as to be beyond the capacity of the home help service. Supervisory visits were subsequently made so that any tendency to relapse might be promptly detected.



TABLE I

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICSLive Births:-

Legitimate	..	..	Males	387	Females	364	Total	751
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	20	Females	19	Total	39

Birth Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.5
Do. 1960	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.4
Do. for the five years 1956 to 1960	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.5

Still Births

Legitimate	..	..	Males	5	Females	1	Total	6
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	-	Females	-	Total	-

Rate per 1,000 total births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7.5
Do. do. 1960	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.3

Total Live and Still Births

Males	412	Females	384	Total	796
-------	-----	---------	-----	-------	-----

Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of Total Live Births	4.9
---	-----

Infant Mortality:-

Deaths of infants under the age of one year:-

Legitimate	..	..	Males	4	Females	5	Total	9
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	-	Females	1	Total	1

Infant Death Rate:-

All infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	12.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	11.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	25.6

Deaths of infants under the age of 4 weeks:-

Legitimate	..	..	Males	4	Females	4	Total	8
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	-	Females	1	Total	1

Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	11.4
--	----	----	----	----	------

Maternal Mortality:-

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	..	..	..	..	-
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	..	..	..	..	Nil

Deaths (nett):-

Males	..	306	Females	..	336	Total	642
Do. 1960:-	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Males	..	343	Females	..	317	Total	660

Death Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.8
Do. 1960	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.8
Do. for the five years 1956 to 1960	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.2

Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions	60.2
---	------

Deaths from:-

Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	117
Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Gastro-enteritis (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-



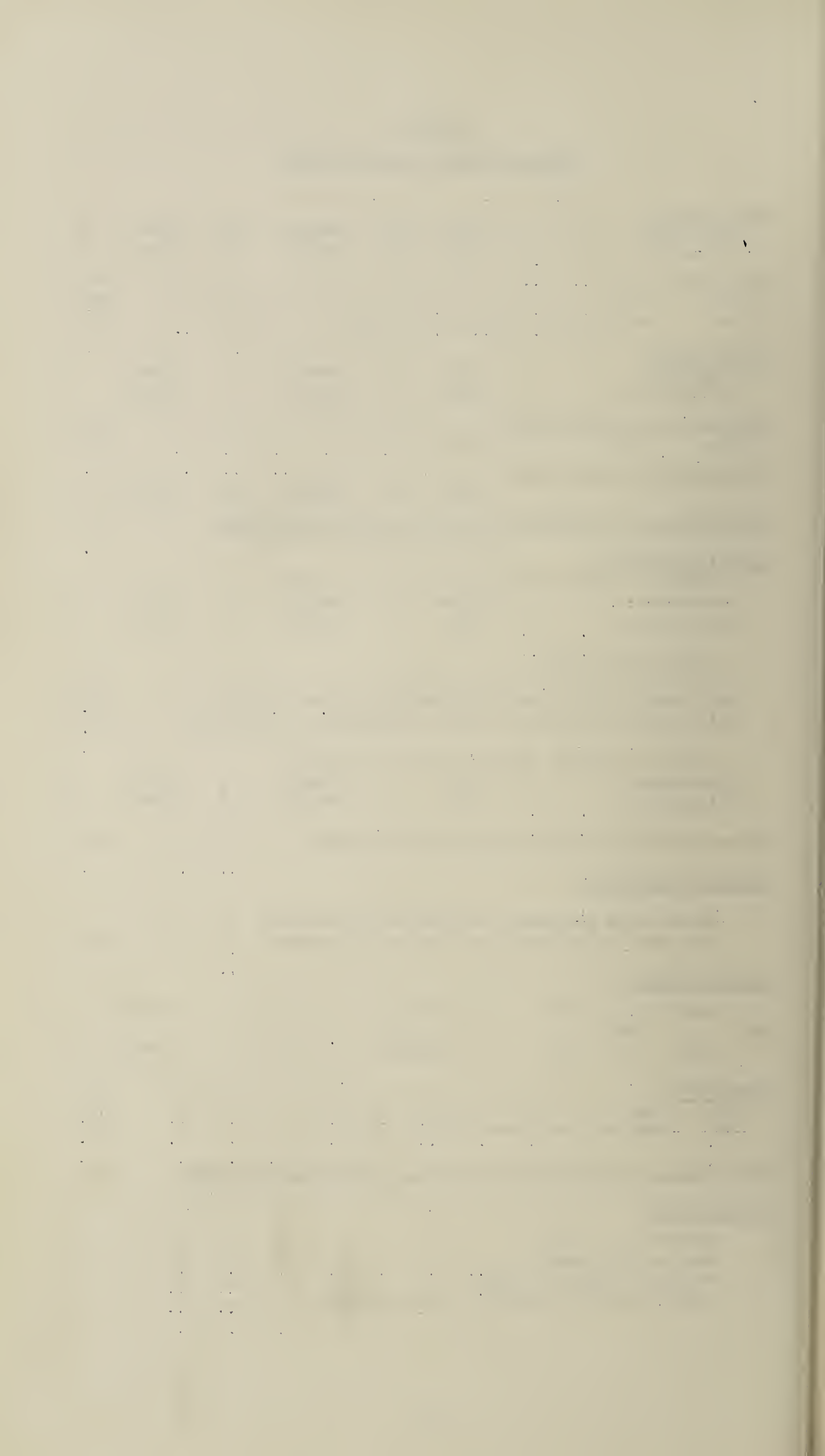




TABLE II

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1934 - 1961

Year	Estimated Population	Live Births	Birth Rate per 1,000 population (unadjusted)	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 population (unadjusted)	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
						Reigate	England
1934	35,400	417	12.4	409	11.5	39	59
1935	35,720	399	11.8	407	11.3	52	57
1936	36,000	456	13.2	443	12.3	36	59
1937	36,360	451	13.0	447	12.2	40	58
1938	36,630	478	13.6	415	11.3	32	53
1939	37,090	463	13.1	454	11.7	34	50
1940	41,970	447	11.1	579	14.2	34	55
1941	42,040	519	13.6	574	13.6	67	59
1942	40,060	581	16.5	496	12.3	45	49
1943	38,400	565	16.6	509	13.2	45	49
1944	36,360	593	17.9	524	14.4	41	46
1945	36,670	492	15.5	497	13.5	33	46
1946	39,690	677	18.9	493	12.4	32	43
1947	40,480	744	19.6	534	13.2	20	41
1948	41,770	611	15.6	453	10.8	28	34
1949	42,150	592	14.8	518	12.3	37	32
1950	42,030	554	13.7	564	13.4	22	30
1951	42,220	530	13.2	551	13.0	20	29
1952	42,460	599	14.4	532	12.5	21	27
1953	44,890	654	15.2	637	14.2	30	26
1954	47,610	666	14.4	572	12.0	13	25
1955	48,180	637	13.6	585	12.1	17	25
1956	48,730	663	14.3	592	12.1	7	24
1957	49,330	681	13.8	564	11.6	13	23
1958	49,760	750	15.1	655	13.2	20	22
1959	50,580	706	13.9	586	11.5	14	22
1960	51,230	793	15.4	660	12.8	18	21
1961	54,260	790	14.5	642	11.8	12	21



TABLE III

Causes of Death in the Borough of Reigate  
during 1961

	M	F	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory .. .. .	3	1	4
2. Tuberculosis, other forms .. .. .	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease .. .. .	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria .. .. .	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough .. .. .	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections .. .. .	-	2	2
7. Acute poliomyelitis .. .. .	-	-	-
8. Measles .. .. .	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	1	1	2
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach .. .. .	6	5	11
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .. ..	23	5	28
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast .. .. .	-	17	17
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus .. .. .	-	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ..	24	36	60
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia .. .. .	1	3	4
16. Diabetes .. .. .	2	4	6
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	36	54	90
18. Coronary disease, angina .. .. .	45	37	82
19. Hypertension with heart disease .. ..	3	1	4
20. Other heart disease .. .. .	35	55	90
21. Other circulatory disease .. .. .	14	10	24
22. Influenza .. .. .	3	3	6
23. Pneumonia .. .. .	18	19	37
24. Bronchitis .. .. .	28	9	37
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ..	3	5	8
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .. ..	5	1	6
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	1	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis .. .. .	3	2	5
29. Hyperplasia of prostate .. .. .	6	-	6
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .. ..	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations .. .. .	2	3	5
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	29	46	75
33. Motor vehicle accidents .. .. .	3	3	6
34. All other accidents .. .. .	9	11	20
35. Suicide .. .. .	3	1	4
36. Homicide and operations of war .. ..	-	-	-
Totals	306	336	642





## SECTION II

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### Water

Every dwelling house in the Borough has a continuous and direct supply of water from the public mains, with the exception of thirty-nine cottages in Ladbroke Road, Redhill, which are supplied with mains water from an intermediate storage tank, and a bungalow in Gatton Park, which has a piped and filtered supply from a nearby spring. Samples from the storage tank were reported to be of the highest standard of bacterial purity and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes. At the end of the year, however, arrangements were in hand for the provision of a mains supply direct to each cottage.

The mains water is derived from deep borings in the chalk and is softened, chlorinated and de-chlorinated before distribution to consumers. Samples of the water before and after treatment are submitted at least twice weekly for bacteriological examination, under private arrangements made by the East Surrey Water Company. In addition, samples of the treated water are examined chemically and/or bacteriologically about once a week under a rota system arranged by the Medical Officers of Health of the districts supplied by the Company, thus avoiding duplication of sampling. Samples are taken in each district at stated times and copies of the Analyst's reports are circulated for the information of the other districts concerned. These reports invariably indicated that the chemical and bacterial purity of the water reached a very high standard. No action was necessary, therefore, in respect of any form of contamination.

The public supply was adequate in quantity throughout the year and was augmented for several weeks at mid-summer by distribution of water from the reserve boreholes at The Clears and Buckland, which had the effect of temporarily raising the total hardness of the water.

About 180 caravans on approved sites in the Borough are supplied with mains water by means of standpipes, which in most cases are within reasonable distance of the caravans. Improvement in this respect followed the application of the Model Standards prescribed under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, resulting in the provision of extra standpipes. Fifteen other caravans have a mains supply to each caravan, in thirteen instances through an intermediate storage tank.

Water from an artesian well, supplying a mineral water factory, was reported to reach a high standard of bacterial purity and to be in every respect suitable for drinking and manufacturing purposes.

#### Swimming Baths and Pools

Two swimming baths in the area are open to the public. Both are covered baths owned and controlled by the Corporation, and are equipped with the necessary plant for continuous filtration and chlorination. The baths are filled from the public mains and are emptied and re-filled if the chemical quality of the water tends to fall below the required standard; such action was not called for in 1961.

In addition to the chemical tests made at least thrice daily by the Baths Superintendent, samples of water from both baths were submitted to analysis at the height of the bathing season, and were reported to be of satisfactory organic quality and bacterial purity.

Preliminary arrangements were made for the routine sampling of water from learners' swimming pools attached to local schools.





## Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The new drainage works carried out by the Council in 1961 included the laying of 150 lineal yards of foul sewer, mainly in connection with building development, and a total of 1,155 lineal yards of surface water sewer to improve the drainage arrangements in Gatton Park Road, Gloucester Road, Woodhatch and other parts of the Borough. In addition, 53 yards of foul sewer and 623 yards of surface water sewer were laid by the developers of private housing estates.

There was no important change in the arrangements made by the Borough Engineer for the emptying and disposal of cesspool contents. One cesspool was abolished when the drainage system of the house concerned was connected to the public sewer.

Thirty-six premises have a septic-tank/filter-bed system of sewage disposal. Four installations, draining ten of these properties, were overhauled and repaired during the year. This was necessary in each case because of complete breakdown of the system as a result of lack of maintenance. The remedial measures advised accordingly included the provision of adequate access points for maintenance purposes.

## Closet Accommodation

All dwellings in the Borough are on the water carriage system, with the exception of about twelve properties on the rural outskirts of the district, where the apparatus available is a pail or chemical closet, and disposal of sink waste liquids is to some form of cesspool or soakaway. Two of these properties were vacated during the year in consequence of action taken under the Housing Acts.

## Rivers and Streams

The streams and surface water courses in the area are regularly inspected and all necessary action is taken to render them free from obstruction, pollution and rodent infestation.

## Public Cleansing

I am indebted to the Cleansing Superintendent for the following information relating to the arrangements for the collection and disposal of refuse:-

The outstanding feature of 1961, as of 1960, was the difficulty in recruiting and retaining an adequate labour force, particularly in the refuse collection section, and so maintaining the usual weekly collection of house refuse in all parts of the Borough. In consequence, the service was at times irregular, especially after holiday periods, though it was generally possible to ensure a reasonable interval between successive collections.

A further problem was the considerable increase in the bulk of refuse in relation to weight; although 851 more loads of refuse were collected in 1961 than in 1960, the total tonnage fell by 82 tons. This change in the character of the refuse creates difficulties in collection and disposal which are not easily overcome and are aggravated by the inadequacy of the existing labour force.

The removal of trade refuse from business premises was continued with the usual frequency of once, twice or three times weekly, or daily where the refuse had a high content of putrescible matter.



On the whole, the conditions under which domestic and trade refuse is temporarily stored are generally satisfactory. Many defective and dilapidated receptacles have been replaced and householders have been assisted in this respect by an arrangement under which dustbins of approved pattern are available for sale at the Cleansing Department.

The separate collection of food waste from schools, institutions, cafes, hotels and private dwellings resulted in the production of 765 tons of animal feeding-stuffs. The scheme for the gradual withdrawal of communal waste food bins and the substitution therefor of individual containers on free loan to householders, had again to be deferred because of labour shortage.

The extraction and salvage of waste paper, bottles, textiles, metals, etc., have continued successfully in operation and produced an income of £22,734, thus making a very valuable contribution to the economical disposal of refuse collected in the Borough. The residue of the refuse, amounting to 14,620 tons, was disposed of by incineration and screening.

### Sanitary Inspection of the Area

A classified statement of the number of premises visited, the defects or nuisances discovered, and the action and result of action taken in respect of them will be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

### Shops

Inspections for the purposes of the Shops Act, 1950, continue to be made as and when necessary.

In accordance with local practice, all plans for food premises submitted to the Borough Engineer were passed to the Chief Public Health Inspector to enable him to offer advice or suggestions, more particularly with regard to ventilation of shop fronts, lighting, sufficiency of sanitary accommodation, water supply and drainage.

### Camping Sites

The conditions obtaining at all caravan sites in the Borough have been reviewed to ensure that the requirements attached to Site Licences may, as far as possible, be in accord with the Model Standards prescribed by the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. While the Model Standards were used as a general guide, they could not reasonably be fully enforced in every case because of physical difficulties and peculiarities of layout of some of the existing sites.

The conditions imposed at two private sites provided for improvement of roads and footpaths, fire fighting appliances, water standpipes, standards in toilet blocks, storage space, car parking facilities and recreation space. One of these sites was extended during the year to accommodate fifteen residential caravans, each provided with electricity, mains water supply, internal water closet, bathroom and main drainage connection. The other site, at Earlswood, was purchased by the Borough Council in September, with the declared object of gradually running it down and utilising the land for permanent housing development. It is not, therefore, proposed to carry out any general scheme of improvement on this site.





The Corporation Caravan Site in Three Arch Road, Redhill, has accommodation for a maximum of forty caravans and is almost exclusively restricted to applicants having residential or occupational connections with the Borough. As far as possible, one site is kept vacant and so immediately available for urgent and special cases. There were three new lettings during the year and three families left the site; a total of forty-one families were in occupation at some time during the year. The very infrequent changes in occupation follow a trend which has become more and more noticeable in recent years, on both Corporation and privately owned sites; this may well indicate contentment in caravan dwelling, in part at least attributable to general improvement in local standards.

No new licences were granted under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, in respect of caravans intended for permanent residential use. Two existing licences were renewed, on grounds of special circumstances, as compared with thirteen five years ago.

#### Atmospheric Pollution (Clean Air Act, 1956)

There were four complaints of nuisance from smoke in 1961, as compared with two in the previous year. One related to smoke and fumes from a cupola flue at a light engineering works in Redhill. Thorough investigation, conducted in conjunction with H.M. Inspector of Alkali, etc., Works, failed to discover any grounds on which statutory action could be taken or advised. Another complaint arose from excessive smoke emission from the chimney of an incinerator, due partly to faulty operation and partly to unsuitability of the incinerator to deal with the type of waste involved. The matter was taken up with the firm concerned, who agreed to adopt alternative means of disposal until more satisfactory incineration could be achieved.

In the two remaining cases the smoke nuisance resulted from burning factory wastes in unsatisfactory conditions in the open. The management of the firms concerned promptly discontinued the practice when the complaints were brought to their notice.

#### Eradication of Bed Bugs

The one case dealt with during the year was of serious bug infestation of a dwelling occupied by an elderly spinster and necessitated repeated supervisory visits. Cases of this kind are now very rarely encountered.

#### Registered Common Lodging Houses

There are no registered common lodging houses in the Borough.





Factories Acts, 1937, 1948 and 1959

In accordance with the requirements of Section 128 (3) of the Factories Act, 1937, I submit the following particulars of action taken during 1961 in relation to factory premises:-

(1) Inspections

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections, 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	25	14	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	181	50	-	-
(iii) Others	42	46	-	-
TOTALS	248	110	-	-

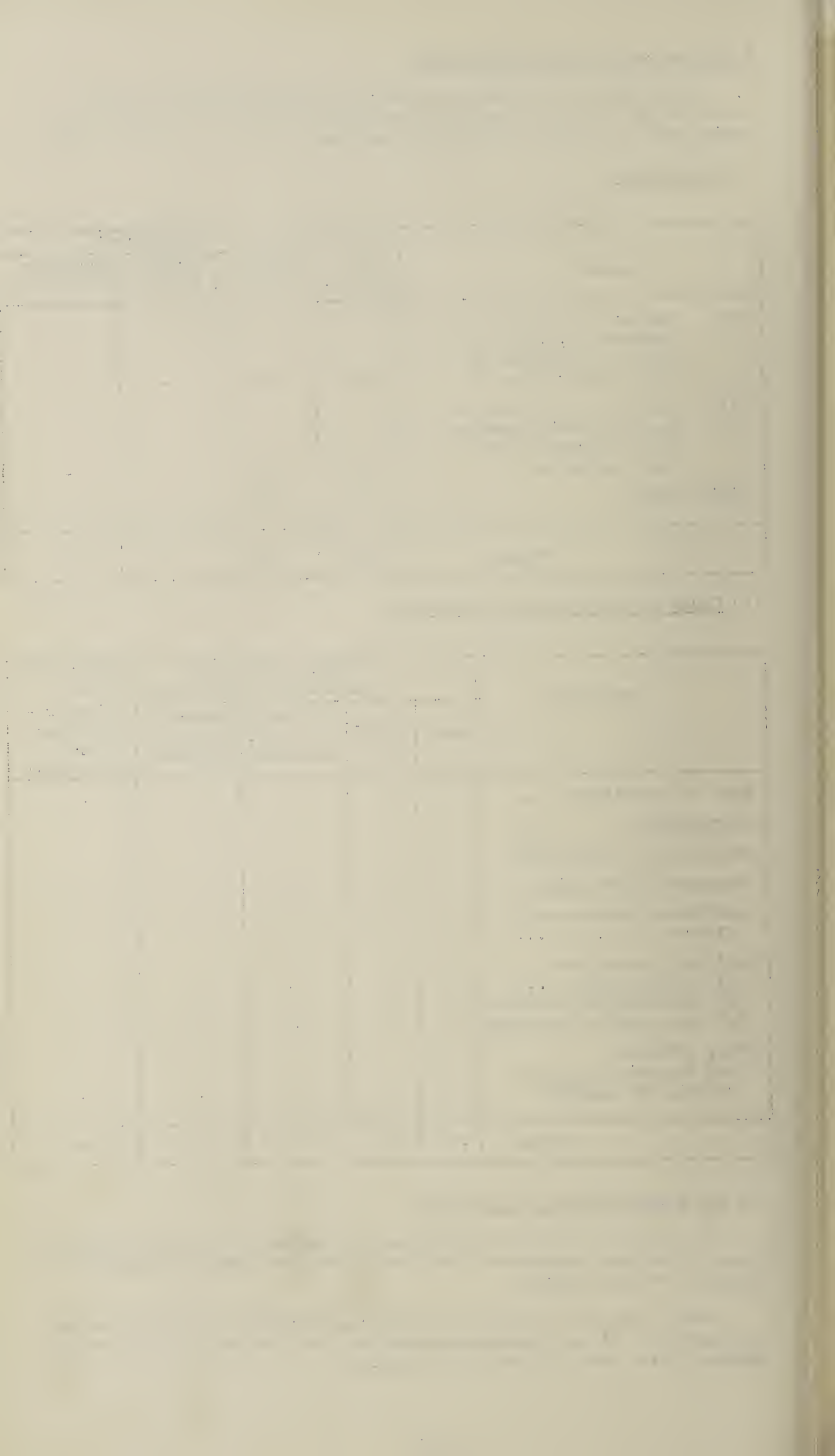
(2) Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ...	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding ...	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	1	1	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences					
(a) insufficient ...	1	1	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	2	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	4	4	-	-	-
TOTALS	10	10	-	2	-

(3) Out Work (Sections 110 and 111)

In compliance with the requirements of Section 110 (i) (c), notice was given by two local employers in respect of two out workers engaged on the making of wearing apparel.

Three lists were received from other Authorities in relation to two out workers. It was found, on inspection, that the work was not in any instance being done in unwholesome premises.



# SECTION III

## HOUSING

Statistical particulars relating to the demolition, closure and repair of unfit houses under the Housing and Public Health Acts are now submitted quarterly to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

The particulars supplied under these headings in respect of the year 1961, are briefly summarised as follows:-

(a)	(i)	Houses demolished in Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1957, Section 42) ... ..	29
		(Brighton Road, Redhill)	
	(ii)	Families rehoused from Clearance Areas ...	27
		(Cromwell Road, Redhill; Brighton Road, Redhill; St. Mark Street, Reigate; St. John's, Redhill)	(75 persons)
(b)		Individual unfit houses dealt with (Housing Act, 1957, Sections 16 & 17) -	
	(i)	Demolished ... ..	4
		(The Cottage, Reigate Hill; 171 & 173, Frenches Road, Redhill; 46, Linkfield Lane, Redhill)	
	(ii)	Closed ... ..	1
		(18, Ladbroke Road, Redhill)	
	(iii)	Families rehoused ... ..	16
		(171 & 173, Frenches Road, Redhill; 1, 2 & 3, Worsted Green Cottages, Merstham; 46, Linkfield Lane, Redhill; 42, 44, 46, Linkfield Street, Redhill; 10, Nutley Lane, Reigate (two families); 159, Garlands Road, Redhill; 18, Ladbroke Road, Redhill; 6 & 8, Warwick Road, Redhill; 1 & 3, Rees Road, Redhill)	(54 persons)
(c)		Unfit houses made fit -	
	(i)	Informally - by owner ... ..	79
	(ii)	After formal notice ... ..	-
The following information is of interest:-			
(d)		Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	258
(e)		Number of dwelling houses - included in (d) above - inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	22
(f)		Number of dwelling houses represented as unfit and suitable for statutory action -	
	(i)	Under Section 42, Housing Act, 1957 ...	Nil
	(ii)	Under Sections 16 & 17, Housing Act, 1957	2
	(iii)	Under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	4
	(iv)	Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	4
(g)	(i)	Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of 1960 ... ..	Nil
	(ii)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during 1961 ... ..	1
	(iii)	Number of cases relieved during 1961	Nil
	(iv)	Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of 1961 ... ..	1





No area in the Borough was officially represented for clearance in 1961, but detailed inspections were made of properties in Ladbroke Road, Garden Row and Feldwick Place, Redhill, with a view to their subsequent representation. Some of these properties had been previously included in the first five-year programme for the clearance of unfit houses and the remainder in the second five-year programme.

Six individual dwelling houses were officially represented as unfit for human habitation. Demolition Orders were made in two cases and Closing Orders in three; action in the remaining case was deferred when it became known that the Surrey County Council had opened negotiations for the purchase of the property. Four houses in Warwick Road, Redhill, in the ownership of the Council, were certified as unfit, with a view to their ultimate demolition.

Now that the first five-year programme has been practically completed, it is of interest to review the results and compare them with the original estimate. The latter envisaged the demolition of 263 houses - 175 in Clearance Areas and 88 as individual unfit houses. The total number actually dealt with was 246 - 157 under Clearance Orders and 89 represented individually, while a further 18 were deferred for inclusion in clearance schemes in the early stages of the second programme. It will thus be seen that the number of houses actually dealt with practically coincided with the original estimate.

At the end of 1961, 200 houses had been demolished or closed and 198 families, comprising 545 persons, had been re-housed under the Council's clearance programme.

The Council's Housing Manager has kindly supplied the following particulars with regard to rehousing:-

1.	<u>Number of new dwellings completed during the year</u>	
	Erected by Borough Council	86
	Erected by private enterprise	178
		<hr/> 264 <hr/>
2.	<u>Families rehoused from waiting list:-</u>	
	In permanent Council houses	13
	In permanent Council flats	49
	In old people's bungalows	1
	In miscellaneous property (including old people's flatlets)	3
		<hr/> 66 <hr/>
3.	<u>Families rehoused from Clearance Areas:-</u>	
	In permanent Council houses	10
	In permanent Council flats	25
	In old people's bungalows, etc.	6
		<hr/> 41 <hr/>
4.	<u>Families transferred from miscellaneous property:-</u>	
	To permanent Council flats	2
5.	<u>Families transferred from one type of Council dwelling to another:-</u>	82
6.	<u>Tenants of other Local Authorities who have exchanged accommodation with tenants of Reigate Borough Council:-</u>	6
7.	<u>Tenants of private landlords who have exchanged accommodation with tenants of Reigate Borough Council:-</u>	1





INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODMilk Supply

In compliance with the requirements of the Milk (Special Designation) (Special Areas) (No.2) Order, 1954, made by the Minister of Food under the Food & Drugs (Milk, Dairies & Artificial Cream) Act, 1950, all milk sold by retail in the Borough must be pasteurised, sterilised or tuberculin tested.

Milk supplies are sampled frequently on the lines and for the purposes mentioned in previous reports. The laboratory findings on samples examined in 1961 are summarised in Table IV, and show that the milk on sale locally reaches a very high standard of bacterial purity.

Of 12 samples of tuberculin-tested milk and 104 samples of pasteurised milk submitted for examination, 109 passed the prescribed test for keeping quality; the test could not usefully be applied to 5 samples because of the high atmospheric temperature at the time of the examination. The 2 remaining samples failed to pass the methylene blue test and, as both were of tuberculin-tested farm-bottled milk, the matter was referred to the Divisional Milk Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food; subsequent samples from the same source were reported to be satisfactory.

All the samples of pasteurised milk satisfied the phosphatase test, indicating that the heat treatment had been correctly and efficiently applied.

Seven samples of milk submitted to biological examination were reported to be free from living organisms of tuberculosis. Freedom from infection of this nature has been one of the most conspicuous and satisfactory features of reports on milk examination in recent years and is, no doubt, an indication of the efficacy of the measures adopted to combat it.

Periodic biological testing is confined to milk that will not be subjected to heat treatment before delivery to the consumer. There are now only two local producers of tuberculin-tested milk, which is sold by retail from a dairy in the Borough.

TABLE IVRESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK1. Tests required by Regulations governing Special Designations

No. of Samples	Methylene Blue			Phosphatase		Turbidity
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Test Void	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory
Tuberculin-Tested: 12	10	2	-	-	-	-
Tuberculin-Tested (Pasteurised): 42	40	-	2	42	-	-
Pasteurised: 62	59	-	3	62	-	-
Sterilised: 7	-	-	-	-	-	7

2. Biological Examination

No. of Samples	Tubercle Bacilli +	% Tubercle Bacilli +
7	Nil	0.00



### Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, which relate to the licensing of dealers in designated milk, came into operation on 1st January, 1961. They greatly simplify the administrative work involved by introducing certain important changes, namely, (1) Dealer's licences no longer restrict sales of designated milk to the area of the licensing authority; supplementary licences are therefore discontinued. (2) A Dealer's (Pre-packed Milk) Licence is introduced, authorising in one licence the use of any or all of the special designations in relation to such milk obtained and sold pre-packed. (3) Dealer's licences issued on or after 1st January, 1961, are valid for five years and renewable for subsequent quinquennial periods.

Licences issued during the year were as follows:-

- 1 Pasteuriser's licence, in respect of a pasteurising plant at a dairy in Reigate.
- 23 Dealers (Pre-packed Milk) Licences, permitting the sale of milk of various designations from thirty-two premises in the Borough.

### Adulteration, etc.

No special action was necessary under Sections 47 and 48 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, nor under the Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 to 1948, and the Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1959.

All articles submitted to the Public Analyst were examined for the presence of preservatives, in accordance with the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1940, but no infringements were reported.

### Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food

Samples for chemical analysis and samples of milk and ice-cream for biological and bacteriological examination are sent to the Council's Analyst, Mr. D.D. Blair, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

There are no premises in the Borough where ice-cream is manufactured for sale. A total of 129 confectioners, grocers, fruiterers, newsagents, etc., are registered for the retail sale of ice-cream which, in every instance, is obtained pre-packed from one or other of the large manufacturing and distributing firms. Hotels, catering establishments and cinemas are exempt from registration.

Nineteen samples of ice-cream (eight from registered retailers and eleven from other establishments in the Borough) were examined for bacterial quality by submission to the methylene-blue reduction test. All were placed in provisional Grade I, indicating that a satisfactory standard of cleanliness had been observed in manufacture, storage and handling.





## SECTION V

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

#### Provision of Isolation Hospital Accommodation

The provision of hospital accommodation for the isolation and treatment of cases of infectious disease is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board. Patients from the Borough are admitted to the Godstone Infectious Diseases Hospital at Bletchingley, if the required accommodation and facilities are available; otherwise, they are sent to suitable hospitals in other parts of the Hospital Region. The disposal of notified cases to different hospitals during the year was as follows:-

Godstone Infectious Diseases Hospital, Bletchingley	4 cases
Queen Mary's Hospital for Children, Carshalton	3 "
Maddon Isolation Hospital	1 case
Redhill County Hospital, Redhill	3 cases
East Surrey Hospital, Redhill	1 case
Thornton House, Redhill	7 cases

Uncomplicated cases of the commoner infections, such as measles, mumps and whooping cough, are not usually accepted, unless recommended by the Medical Officer of Health on the grounds that the patient cannot be satisfactorily isolated and treated at home; several such cases were admitted to hospital during the year.

#### Notifiable Infectious Diseases

The action taken on receipt of a notification that a person is suffering from an infectious disease is fully described in previous reports.

The exclusion from school of infected persons and contacts is carried out generally in accordance with the suggestions contained in the Memorandum issued jointly in 1956 by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health.

Table V shows the numbers of cases of the various notifiable infectious diseases (other than tuberculosis) recorded in the area during the calendar year, classified according to the age of the patient, together with the numbers of cases removed to hospital and the total deaths from each disease. The prevalence of the various diseases is reviewed below.

#### Smallpox

No confirmed or suspected case of smallpox was reported in the Borough in 1961. Two residents, who were believed to have been in contact with a modified case of the disease abroad, were kept under close surveillance for the customary period.

#### Scarlet Fever

The eight reported cases of scarlet fever were generally mild in type and were scattered in distribution as regards season and locality. Three were removed to hospital as they could not otherwise be satisfactorily isolated and the remainder were nursed in their own homes. The total number of cases is extremely small, though it is probable that many mild and transient cases escaped notification.



TABLE V

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED  
DURING THE YEAR, 1961

	Cases notified in age periods											Totals	Total cases removed to hospital	Total Deaths
	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over		
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	1	4	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Whooping Cough	2	-	2	1	4	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Measles	14	67	94	117	485	35	5	5	-	3	4	-	3	-
Dysentery	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	2	5	10	4	37 #
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	2	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	3	1	1	8	-
	17	69	96	127	119	49	9	12	11	11	11	11	20	37
Totals 1960	10	12	16	13	8	82	25	7	14	11	12	12	29	23

# All forms





## Diphtheria

For the tenth consecutive year no confirmed or suspected case of diphtheria was reported. Appropriate action was taken in relation to two Borough residents who had known contact with confirmed cases elsewhere.

## Whooping Cough

The incidence of whooping cough was exceptionally low and was, in the main, confined to the early part of the year and to the Berstham area. The age group distribution followed the usual pattern and, as in recent years, the clinical course of the illness was mild and relatively free from complications, particularly in children who had previously been vaccinated. No mortality was attributed to whooping cough.

## Measles

Following the usual cycle of epidemic prevalence in alternate years, there was a widespread outbreak of measles, involving 946 cases, in the early months of 1961. The total number of cases was not above that usually reported in an epidemic year and, on the whole, the clinical course of the illness was relatively mild. With few exceptions, the persons affected were under school leaving age, with marked concentration of cases amongst new entrants to infants' departments. Interference with school attendance was reduced to the minimum by liberal interpretation of the rules prescribed for the exclusion of cases and contacts.

## Poliomyelitis

For the third consecutive year there was complete freedom from poliomyelitis. One suspected case was not confirmed after full investigation in hospital.

## Dysentery

Eight cases of bacillary dysentery were notified. Five, including three at the Royal Earlswood Hospital, were of the mild Sonne type and confirmed as such by laboratory methods. Routine examination of sixteen contacts led to the detection of three symptomless carriers who, with the cases, were kept under close supervision until shown to be free from infection.

The remaining three cases occurred in members of a family who became infected by the Flexner type of organism while on holiday abroad; all recovered satisfactorily.

## Pneumonia

With one exception, the reported cases of pneumonia occurred in the early part of the year, with a peak of maximum prevalence in January. Several of the cases then reported were stated to be secondary to influenza, which was also prevalent at that time. The age group distribution of the cases was unusual in that older persons were chiefly affected. Four cases were treated in hospital and most of the remainder were visited with a view to the supply of any nursing or domestic assistance that might be necessary.





### Ophthalmia Neonatorum

It was reported that an infant born at home had a purulent discharge from the eyes very shortly after birth. With suitable treatment the case recovered completely and without impairment of vision.

### Meningococcal Infection

No case of meningococcal infection was notified during the year. Two patients who died very shortly after their admission to hospital were found, at post mortem examination, to be suffering from cerebro-spinal septicaemia, the origin of which could not be traced in either case.

### Food poisoning

Two cases of moderately severe bacterial food poisoning - one due to *S. newport* and the other to *S. blockley* - were officially notified. The nature of the illness was not recognised in either case until late in convalescence, when possible sources of infection could not usefully be investigated. No intestinal infection was discovered amongst home contacts.

Appropriate action was taken in relation to two symptomless carriers of food poisoning organisms (*S. typhimurium*).

### Puerperal Pyrexia

Eleven women were reported to have rise of temperature during the lying-in period. Eight had been confined in hospital, including three not normally resident in the Borough. The total number of cases is not above the average.

### Erysipelas

With the introduction of modern methods of treatment, erysipelas has now largely ceased to have much epidemiological significance. Only one case occurred among the general population, the remaining nine being reported at a local residential institution; all recovered satisfactorily.

### Other Diseases

Ten cases of suspected meningitis, eight of acute gastro-enteritis and four of inflammation of the upper respiratory tract, which were believed to be due to specific infection, were removed to hospital for observation. The presence of an infecting organism was not confirmed by laboratory investigation, except in two cases of meningitis, which were found to be of virus causation.



## Tuberculosis

Particulars of the new cases of tuberculosis which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table VI, together with an analysis of the deaths in the area from this disease during the same period.

The downward trend in the prevalence of respiratory tuberculosis continued in 1961, when the total number of new cases notified was eighteen, as compared with twenty in 1960 and twenty-two in 1959. The case rate per 1,000 of the population for this form of the disease was 0.33, which is roughly one-third of that recorded in the Borough ten years ago. The fall in incidence in the meantime has been most marked amongst females and persons in the younger age groups.

The two reported cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis represent a case rate of 0.03, which is slightly below the record low rate observed in 1960. The decline in prevalence of this form of tuberculosis also, particularly in recent years, has been remarkably rapid and sustained.

There were four recorded deaths from respiratory tuberculosis, representing a mortality rate (adjusted) of 0.06 per 1,000 of the population. Although this rate is double that experienced in the Borough in 1960 and in 1959, it is well below the average for the preceding ten years and is rather less than the corresponding rate for England and Wales. No mortality was ascribed to tuberculosis of other organs.

In addition to the new cases, i.e. those notified for the first time, there were reports of 19 previously known cases of tuberculosis (16 respiratory and 3 non-respiratory in type) which had been notified elsewhere and had taken up residence in the Borough. The majority of these are under supervision of the Chest Physician for the area.

At the end of the year there were 314 known cases of tuberculosis in the Borough, including 287 (163 males and 119 females) in which the lungs were affected, and 27 (8 males and 19 females) with tuberculosis of other organs. In many of these the disease is quiescent or arrested, but all are regularly visited and supervised by the staff of the local Chest Clinic. The total number of cases represents a reduction of 18 on the corresponding figure for 1960.

The names of 57 cases were removed from the register of tuberculous persons, 15 on leaving the district, 6 on death and 36 on complete recovery from the disease.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis and employed in the milk trade) nor under Section 127 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

The voluntary Tuberculosis Care Committee, which works in close association with local Chest Clinics and Sanatoria, continued its activities on behalf of tuberculous persons and their dependents. The assistance granted during the year included the supply of extra nourishment, fuel bedding, clothing, sick-room requisites, etc., and the payment of fares, pocket money and other incidental expenses which could not be met from official sources.





TABLE VI

New cases of Tuberculosis, and all Deaths from the Disease in the Area during 1961, classified according to Age, Sex and Type of Disease

Age Periods	Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-5 years ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-15 years ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-25 years ..	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-35 years ..	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
35-45 years ..	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
45-55 years ..	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
55-65 years ..	4	-	-	1	2	-	-	-
65 and upwards ..	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	11	7	-	2	3	1	-	-
Totals 1960	13	7	-	2	1	1	-	-



## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

### Vaccination against Small-pox

Vaccination against small-pox is not at present undertaken at the County Council's Clinics in the Borough. Particulars of notifications of vaccination performed by private medical practitioners during the year are as follows:-

	<u>0 - 1</u> <u>year</u>	<u>1 - 5</u> <u>year</u>	<u>5 - 15</u> <u>years</u>	<u>Over 15</u> <u>years</u>	<u>Total</u>
Primary Vaccination	448	60	50	43	601
Re-vaccination	-	5	24	187	216

The total number of primary vaccinations is above the average and, in the case of infants under the age of one year, represents roughly 60 per cent. of those in the age group.

A considerable number of the re-vaccinations were of persons who were required to produce certificates of recent vaccination to enable them to travel abroad. Such certificates must be authenticated by the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the vaccination was performed.

### Immunisation against Diphtheria

The numbers of children who completed a full course of immunisation during the year, either at the County Council's Clinics or under private arrangements, are as follows:-

Year of Birth:	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1952/56</u>	<u>1947/51</u>	<u>Total</u>
	223	475	54	27	19	124	88	1010

In addition, reinforcing doses of diphtheria prophylactic were given to 1934 persons, most of whom were school entrants who had completed a course of immunisation three or four years previously. This number is very much greater than usual, largely in consequence of special visits to schools for the purpose of giving primary or reinforcing injections.

It is estimated that at least 70 per cent. of the children in the Borough have been artificially immunised against diphtheria. This proportion is not unsatisfactory, but it must be maintained at its present level or, if possible, increased, that it may offer an effective barrier to the introduction and spread of diphtheritic infection. The very low prevalence of such infection in the community has almost completely removed opportunity to acquire immunity naturally and reliance must, in future, be placed almost entirely on the protection afforded by artificial means.

### Vaccination against Whooping Cough

The County Council's scheme for vaccination against whooping cough is directed mainly to infants under the age of one year, in whom the disease is most likely to be fatal or followed by serious complications. The numbers of children who completed a full course of immunisation during the year, either at the County Council's Clinics or under private arrangements, are as follows:-

Year of Birth:	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1952/56</u>	<u>1947/51</u>	<u>Total</u>
	221	463	45	8	6	17	3	763

Reinforcing injections of whooping cough vaccine were given to 176 children who had completed a course of primary immunisation a year previously.

The number of primary immunisations and of reinforcing injections are both somewhat greater than in 1960.





## Vaccination against Tetanus

Vaccination against tetanus is available to children whose parents expressly wish them to be so protected. Tetanus vaccine may be given separately, but is often combined with the agents used for active immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough, thus reducing the number of inoculations and affording simultaneous protection against all three diseases. In accordance with modern practice the use of combined vaccines was suspended during the summer months because of their possible role in provoking the onset of poliomyelitis.

The numbers of persons vaccinated against tetanus in 1961 were as follows:-

0 - 4 years	820
5 - 14 years	168
	<hr/>
	988
	<hr/>
Reinforcing doses	310
	<hr/>

## Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

There was no extension of the groups eligible for vaccination against poliomyelitis, which includes persons between the ages of six months and forty years, and certain priority classes, such as expectant mothers, medical practitioners and their families, nurses, ambulance personnel and others exposed to special risk. Third injections were offered to those who had had their second injections not less than seven months previously and, in April, fourth injections became available for children between the ages of five and twelve years; these had later to be suspended because of shortage of vaccine.

The numbers vaccinated against poliomyelitis by their own doctors or at the County Council's Clinics during the year, are as follows:-

Children between the ages of 6 months and 15 years	770
Young persons between the ages of 15 and 25 years	81
Persons between the ages of 25 and 40 years	956
Other priority groups, e.g. expectant mothers, medical practitioners, hospital staff and families, and ambulance personnel	94
Third injections	2,255
Fourth injections	3,477

## Measles prophylaxis

Immune serum is available through the Public Health Department for the total or partial immunisation of susceptible measles contacts. Only two requests for serum were received during the year.

## B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

The County Council's arrangements for routine B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis extend to thirteen-year-old pupils at County Council and independent schools, and also to some older pupils and students at County Colleges and other establishments for further education. Subject to the consent of their parents, persons in these groups are skin tested to ascertain if they have already had a primary tuberculous infection, and those giving a negative result are offered B.C.G. vaccination.





Testing was conducted at fourteen schools in the Borough during the year, with the following results:-

Number of pupils in age group	1318
Number consenting to treatment	958
Percentage consenting to treatment	72.7%
Number Mantoux tested	878
Number of negative reactors	827
Percentage giving negative reaction	94.1%
Number vaccinated	827
Percentage of negative reactors vaccinated	100%

While the primary purpose of the scheme is the ascertainment and vaccination of children who have not already had a primary infection, it is the usual practice to arrange, where possible, for x-ray examination of positive reactors to exclude the possibility of active infection. No unfavourable x-ray findings were reported during the year.

Apart from the routine skin testing referred to above, a special investigation was conducted at a County College in the Borough following a report that a student who had lately been in attendance was suffering from infectious tuberculosis of the lungs. All students who may have had contact with the case, with the exception of twenty-seven negative reactors to the skin test, and all members of the teaching staff were referred for x-ray examination which, with the co-operation of the Mass Radiography Service, was conducted on the premises. None of the eighty-two persons thus examined showed x-ray evidence of lung infection and it seemed unlikely, therefore, that the original or index case had contracted or disseminated infection at the College in question.

#### Protection against other diseases

Trophylactic inoculation against other infectious diseases, such as cholera, yellow fever, etc., is necessary in the case of persons proposing to visit foreign countries where these diseases are endemic, and is usually undertaken at specified centres.

#### Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases

Information relating to the prevalence of non-notifiable infectious and contagious diseases is necessarily incomplete, and is obtained mainly from reports of school absentees, the periodic statements of sickness claims submitted to the local office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance in relation to insured persons and the Registrar's weekly returns of deaths. Cases also come to notice through enquiries by employers with regard to quarantine periods, requests for disinfection, casual communications by private medical practitioners and applications for domestic assistance under the Home Help Scheme. The occurrence of cases at the Day Nursery and in residential children's homes is also reported.

The information obtained from these various sources did not indicate unusual or excessive prevalence of non-notifiable infection in the Borough in 1961. In the very early part of the year there was an outbreak of influenza which was, on the whole, mild in type, of short duration and associated with low mortality. The local office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance reported at that time that sickness benefit claims had, for a short period, reached epidemic level, partly on account of influenza, but mainly because of increased prevalence of colds and non-specific respirator ailments.



The other non-notifiable infections reported during the year included 68 cases of mumps (mainly at St. John's School in Redhill), 46 of chicken-pox (at St. John's and Dovers Green Schools), 3 of German measles and 3 of glandular fever; 4 of these cases were admitted to hospital. It was not necessary to resort to closure of any school or department to prevent the spread of infectious illness.

The advice and assistance of the Public Health Department was frequently sought in connection with scattered cases of moderately severe vomiting and diarrhoea, which was believed to be of virus causation, and acute upper respiratory infection caused by the organism of scarlet fever, but not subject to the official restrictions applicable to that disease.

### Disinfection

There are facilities at the Disinfecting Station for the sterilisation of articles that have been exposed to infection and for the cleansing of verminous persons and their belongings. Provision has been made for the treatment by formalin vapour of books and other articles which are unsuitable for disinfection by super-heated steam. The work undertaken at the Disinfecting Station during the year is summarised in a later section of this report.

### Uncleanliness

#### Pediculosis

The instances of pediculosis reported during the year were confined to twelve school-children who had lice or nits in their hair. Only one was of such degree as to necessitate temporary exclusion from school. Cleansing was satisfactorily undertaken by the parents of the children affected, with the advice and assistance of the Public Health Department, and it was not necessary, therefore, to resort to compulsory cleansing under the arrangements made for that purpose; neither was it necessary to undertake the cleansing of any verminous adult at the Corporation's Disinfecting Station.

In view of the continuing low incidence of cases of pediculosis, the local Divisional Executive authorised the suspension, as from September, 1961, of routine cleanliness inspections at the various schools in the Borough and the substitution therefor of a system of selective following-up of cases of uncleanliness discovered by other means.

#### Scabies

Seven cases of scabies, involving five households, were reported during the year and were satisfactorily cleansed in their own homes with the assistance and advice of the Public Health Department. Nine immediate contacts of these cases were advised, and agreed, to undergo treatment as a precautionary measure. Suitable arrangements were made for the disinfection of bedding and clothing of the persons affected.





BOROUGH OF REIGATE  
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1961

Public Health Department,  
Caberfeigh,  
24 Hatchlands Road,  
Redhill, Surrey.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to submit to you my first Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors during 1961.

It has been, in the main, a year of consolidation and the carrying forward of work already begun in connection with recent legislation, dealing with housing, caravanning on properly constructed sites, and food production, distribution and retail sale. The programme was retarded from June onwards by a staff shortage of one District Inspector, a position which continued up to the end of the period. In consequence, once again certain aspects of routine work suffered some curtailment, primarily in the regular conduct of house-to-house inspections and in the frequency of food hygiene inspections at retail shops. Ideas for a focus on the trading methods of "food" mobiles, plying around the streets of the Borough, had to be deferred, with the reservation that 1962 must see the job done.

Work on housing brought the end of the first five years' programme in sight and was already devoted in part to the formulation and start on a second of the same duration, aiming at the elimination of all areas of unfit property and covering upwards of a hundred houses. A scheme was brought forward for another look at that intermediate category of tenanted property, which, whilst not of so very good a standard, must perforce be given a new lease of life of upwards of 30 years. In this connection work on Standard Grants, for the improvement and provision of amenities in such houses, went steadily ahead throughout the year. Every opportunity was taken to publicise the scheme to owners, tenants, and estate agents. However, without the "bite" of any coercive legislation the response in tenanted property has continued to be most disappointing.

Following the improved standards for caravan sites laid down under the Caravanners Charter of 1960 and conditions made thereunder for the sites in the Borough, general improvements were achieved at one private site and a comprehensive scheme was worked out for overall improvements at a second one.

Difficulties were experienced early in the year at the one slaughterhouse in the Borough, that at Merstham, in unsuccessful attempts by the East Surrey Master Butchers' Association Ltd. to obtain additional adjoining land to facilitate the general improvements required by the recent Regulations on hygienic construction and humane slaughter. However, considerable progress was later made on plans for extensive reconstruction within the existing curtilage, which would result in compliance with the Regulations, more efficient and hygienic operational conditions and a considerable easing of meat inspection difficulties. In this last connection and having regard to the recent publicity on the need to obtain 100% inspection of all carcase meat throughout the country, it must be recorded that that target was again achieved in 1961, as it has been for many years past.



I cannot begin to pay tribute to my predecessor-in-office, Mr. G. Janes, over as long a period of joint service as the Medical Officer of Health has done. However, in the fourteen years I have worked with Mr. Janes it suffices for me to say that he has always been to me a shining example in forthright honesty and integrity in the cause of public health and the service of the Council. A ready sense of responsibility and unswerving purpose, softened always by a humble consideration of personalities involved, was a continuing tribute both to the officer and the man. One can but try to emulate and hope to succeed, at least in part.

Finally, may I submit that the trials and tribulations of a "new boy" have been very considerably eased by the kindly guidance so readily given at all times by Dr. T. H. Bingham, the Medical Officer of Health, the loyal, unstinting help of colleagues in the Department, friendly co-operation of all colleagues on the Council, and not least the gentle handling I have received from the members of the Public Health Committee.

I am, Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. FRANKHAM

Chief Public Health Inspector

8th August, 1962





## Infectious Disease, Disinfection and Disinfestation

During the year 38 visits of enquiry were made on behalf of the Medical Officer of Health in connection with cases of infectious disease and suspected food poisoning; a considerable reduction on recent annual totals of about 100 in this connection. The purpose of such an enquiry is to try and ascertain the cause or origin of the illness, to trace contacts or contaminated or infected food and, if possible, to assist in preventing the occurrence of further cases.

The disinfection or disinfestation of material continued to be carried out at the Council's Disinfecting Station at the Disposal Works, Redhill. This was done either in the steam disinfecting apparatus or by chemical means in the specially designed fumigating compartment. This work was also carried out on behalf of the neighbouring Rural District Councils of Dorking & Horley and Godstone, and the Urban District Council of Caterham & Warlingham.

Detail of the work is given below and, unless otherwise indicated, relates to articles of bedding, clothing, furnishings, etc.:-

(1) Reigate Borough

	<u>From</u> <u>Dwelling-houses</u>	<u>From</u> <u>Institutions, etc.</u>
Infectious & Other Diseases	6	-
Vermis (Lice)	-	-
Miscellaneous	32	410
Rooms Disinfected	1	-
Rooms Disinfested	13	-

(2) Dorking & Horley R.D.

Infectious & Other Diseases	13	-
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(3) Godstone R.D.

Infectious & Other Diseases	13	-
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(4) Caterham & Warlingham U.D.C.

Infectious & Other Diseases	19	-
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In addition, 7 library books were disinfected by formalin vapour and returned to the libraries concerned.

The infestation of dwelling-houses by vermin, such as bed-bugs and fleas, remained a rare occurrence. In 1961 a flat was found to be heavily infested with fleas, and was successfully cleared by a single application of a liquid insecticide containing D.D.T., this operation having been preceded by the use of insecticide fumer tablets to "soften up" the infestation. These insecticide fumers are cheap and easy to use and are proving both speedy and efficient in such cases as these, also with fly infestation in roof spaces. Several of the latter were so dealt with during the year. A dwelling occupied by an elderly lady was found to be infested with bed-bugs and here again treatment by insecticide spraying, coupled with the destruction of certain verminous articles, quickly cleared the infestation. A nursing home was successfully treated for cockroaches, using a liquid emulsion D.D.T. and pyrethrum. Other premises which were disinfested included:-

(a) Kitchens, etc., of St. Anne's Institution, Redhill, and St. Davids, Wray Park Road, Reigate (Surrey County Council), and premises occupied by the Redhill Group Hospital Management Committee, which were periodically treated for cockroaches under contract arrangements with those authorities;

(b) school canteen kitchens under the control of the County Education Authority, which were sprayed with a liquid insecticide during the fly-breeding season to prevent the contamination of food by flies.





Three houses, occupied by elderly persons, and one vacant Council property were found to be in an insanitary condition; assistance was given in cleansing and disinfection, followed by the removal of soiled material for destruction.

In August a regular telephone disinfection service was instituted for all departments of the Council, treatments being carried out by the Disinfecting Officer on upwards of 160 telephones at least once per month.

### Slaughtering and Meat Inspection

This subject is governed by the following legislation -

- (a) Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.
- (b) Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958.
- (c) Food & Drugs Act, 1955, Sections 62 to 79 - Slaughterhouses and Knackers' Yards.
- (d) Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.
- (e) Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958
- (f) Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924/52.
- (g) Meat (Staining & Sterilization) Regulations, 1960.

Ten applications by slaughtermen for the renewal of their licences were granted at the beginning of the year. No infringement of the Act was noted during 1961.

The slaughtering of all food animals continued to be carried out at the Merstham slaughterhouse occupied by the East Surrey Master Butchers' Association Ltd., the only slaughterhouse now licensed in the Borough.

The licence of this slaughterhouse expired in March and was renewed for a further period expiring on 31st March, 1962, to coincide with the coming into operation of the new Regulations relating to hygienic construction of premises and the humane handling and slaughter of animals. In July a preliminary plan was submitted by the licensees, indicating general reorganisation and improvements within the existing curtilage, as agreement could not be reached on the acquisition of a small area of adjoining land. This proposal was generally approved, as were detailed plans submitted later in September. Owing to further problems and difficulties arising, the alterations had still not been commenced at the end of the year. Nevertheless, despite the limitations of the premises, the slaughter of animals was carried out under reasonably hygienic conditions, although facilities for lairage, adequate control of slaughtering methods, meat inspection and day-to-day cleansing and maintenance continued to pose problems.

Once again, 100% inspection of carcasses was achieved at the Merstham slaughterhouse; no meat leaves there until it has been inspected and passed as fit for human consumption. The results of meat inspection are given in the accompanying Tables on pages 34 and 35. The total number of animals slaughtered was slightly higher than in 1960; the incidence of disease found on post-mortem inspection was about the same. Tuberculosis in cattle, fairly common a decade ago, is now rare and in 1961 no cases were recorded. The number of cattle found to be affected with cystercosis bovis, a parasitic disease which may lead to the development of tapeworms in humans, continued at about the same level as in the previous year; the routine examination of beef carcasses necessary to reveal this condition must, therefore, be continued with vigilance.

In calculating the percentages of animals found on inspection to be affected by disease other than tuberculosis or cysticercosis, figures relating to cattle and sheep affected with liver fluke, and to pigs suffering from pneumonia or lung congestion, are disregarded as these are common conditions which are not of value for comparative statistical purposes.

The licensed knacker's yard at Three Arch Road, Redhill, continued in operation throughout the year; it was mainly used for the cutting up of carcasses of animals which had died or had been slaughtered on the owners' premises; few animals were slaughtered at the knacker's yard.



# MEAT INSPECTION

## CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excluding Bulls and Cows	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
<u>NUMBER KILLED</u>	742	2	25	146	856	2,930
<u>NUMBER INSPECTED</u>	742	2	25	146	856	2,930
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	1	1	1	11
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	199	-	17	1	20	826
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	26.8%	-	72%	1.37%	2.45%	28.1%
	♂ (13.7%)	-	♂ (32%)	-	♂ (.47%)	≠ (4.6%)
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	36
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	1.23%
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	22	-	1	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	4	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

♂ Percentage excluding Distomatosis

≠ Percentage excluding Pneumonia and  
Congestion of Lungs.

The total weight of carcasses and offals condemned was  
3 tons, 11 cwts., 2 qtrs.

There were no horses slaughtered for human consumption during the period







DESCRIPTION	Number Slaughtered	Tubercu- losis		Other Conditions											TOTAL		
		Generalised	Localised	Fever	Dropsy and/or Emaciation also Imaturity	Congestion	Injury	Septicaemia	Nephritis	Distomatosis & Cirrhosis	Parasitic	Abscesses	Pleurisy and Peritonitis	Pneumonia		Cavernous Angioma	Miscellaneous
BOVINES (excluding calves) Whole Carcases and Offal Part Carcase Heads and Tongues Lungs Livers and Part Livers Mesentery and Intestines	769	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	1	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	101	-	28	21	-	4	-	1
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CALVES Whole Carcases and Offal Lungs Livers	146	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
SHEEP Whole Carcases and Offal Part Carcases Lungs Livers	856	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PIGS Whole Carcases and Offal Part Carcases Heads and Tongues Lungs Livers	2,930	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
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		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	4,701	-	37	-	8	152	7	5	7	105	91	47	241	451	4	11	1,166



Regular inspections revealed that a satisfactory standard of hygiene was being maintained. At the end of 1960, renewal of the licence was deferred, pending the receipt of further information on a proposed revision of boundaries of the yard. The proposal to limit the boundaries to that part of the premises used exclusively as a knacker's yard and to exclude a detached building, formerly lairage and now converted to a cold store, was considered to be reasonable. The cold store was for use in connection with a wholesale and retail pet food business carried on by the licensee in conjunction with, but entirely separate from, his knacker's yard. The licence was, in consequence, renewed up to the end of the year.

The Meat (Staining & Sterilization) Regulations, 1960, which had just come into force at the end of 1960, required all butchers' and imported meat unfit for human consumption to be sterilised, and all knacker meat to be stained or sterilised. Arrangements already made in this connection with the Merstham slaughterhouse and the knacker's yard worked well, and the Regulations dealt satisfactorily with loopholes in the control of the ultimate disposal of these classes of meat. A problem arose during the year on imported horsemeat classed as fit for human consumption, but actually intended as pet food, which was found on sampling at the London docks to have a high incidence of infection by food poisoning organisms. This meat, not necessarily unfit in individual bags or parcels, presented a real food poisoning hazard, even where such meat was merely brought into a household as pet food. Carelessness in the kitchen could well give rise to cross-infection. Release from the docks was deferred pending satisfactory disposal to firms willing to sterilise the meat. Following agreement on sterilisation by boiling, quantities of this meat were allowed to be consigned to the knacker's yard for treatment there prior to sale. Full co-operation from the London area, by the regular notification of any consignment, was a pleasing feature of this arrangement.

#### Food and Drugs Act, 1955 - Sections 8 & 9 - Food Unfit for Human Consumption

The inspection of foodstuffs generally continued to be made during the day-to-day inspection of food premises, during sampling visits, and also at the request of traders in special cases. The days are long past when the latter category presented a considerable call on the Inspectors' time; obviously unfit tinned and pre-packed foods are now invariably returned through trade channels to wholesaler or manufacturer. Likewise, the year has shown a gratifying reduction in the number of incidents where attention had to be drawn to the undesirable practice of selling off, cheaply, damaged and doubtful canned goods. Only a mere handful of traders remain where vigilance is still necessary in this respect.

A further increase was noted in the turnover to self-service shops, invariably in the grocery and general food businesses. From the onset a good standard of shop hygiene is sought, but the problem remains of satisfactory storage, handling and rotation of the multiplicity of pre-packed goods. Constant vigilance and, indeed, education in this matter are required. Adequate coding methods still fail to keep pace with pre-packaging methods.

Complaints made to the Department on alleged unsatisfactory food were higher in number than in 1960, twenty-eight having been received. Following investigation in each case, only two were deemed to be sufficiently serious to report to the Public Health Committee. In one, relating to a dead snake in a bottle of milk, legal proceedings resulted in a fine of £50 being imposed on the dairy concerned; a warning letter was considered appropriate in the other case, that of mouse droppings in a loaf of bread, having regard to all the precautions taken by the firm in question. Of the remaining cases seven were not justified, in six the evidence was inconclusive, six related to dirty food containers, and seven were of foreign material in the food. Appropriate action was taken as necessary with the vendor or manufacturer.

During 1961 the following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption, and were surrendered to the Inspectors for disposal at the Council's Refuse Disposal Works:-





Meat and offal	22 cwts.
Meat - canned	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwts.
Ham - canned	65 lbs.
Sausages	168 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Fish	2 cwts.
Chicken	46
Sugar and Preserves	25 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Coffee beans	1 cwt.
Confectionery (including Frozen food)	121 lbs.
Tinned fish	15 tins
" fruit	322 tins
" fruit juice	31 tins
" milk	3 tins
" soup	5 tins
" vegetables	91 tins and jars
Tinned and Packet food (miscellaneous)	79 tins and packets

This work involved 60 visits by the Inspectors

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 - Sections 13 to 21 - Hygiene in connection with  
the sale of Food, etc. to the Public  
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Inspections of food premises under the Regulations generally indicated that a reasonable standard was being maintained, although in some of the older premises more regular and detailed control was required to ensure that conditions did not deteriorate. During the year emphasis was on the adequate protection of open food displays, particularly in the case of certain fruiterers who showed a tendency to an increased forecourt layout with the minimum of screening. The stage has now been reached in the retail meat and fish trades when, with minor exceptions, the open shop front is a relic of the past. There are no butchers' shops in this category now, and the few remaining fishmongers with special problems are nevertheless co-operative in providing the best protection possible against contamination. Particular attention was paid to the small general grocery/sweet confectionery type of business, with adjacent living accommodation, where the standard in amenities, such as ablution facilities, is often low; a number of these were brought up to a higher standard in this respect.

Primary inspections made at food premises were as follows:-

Catering Establishments	...	...	...	49
Bakchouses	...	...	...	24
Grocers	...	...	...	46
Butchers	...	...	...	27
Fruiterers & Greengrocers	...	...	...	35
Fishmongers	...	...	...	25
Confectioners	...	...	...	17
Vehicles and Stalls	...	...	...	19

Routine follow-up inspections under the Regulations involved  
277 visits.

The Register of food premises now includes the following:-

Grocers, etc.	...	...	...	102
Butchers, etc.	...	...	...	36
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	...	...	...	40
Fishmongers and Fish-fryers	...	...	...	20
Confectioners (including 12 bakehouses)	...	...	...	105
Catering Establishments (including 69 Public Houses and 26 School canteen-kitchens)	...	...	...	176
Food Manufactories	...	...	...	4

Four hundred and four visits of inspection were made to the above-named food premises.





Premises which are required to be registered under Section 16 are shown below in detail as being on the register at the end of 1961.

(a) Manufacture and sale of preserved food, etc.:

<u>Type of Premises</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Butchers, etc. ... ..	28	45
Fish-fryers ... ..	11	30
Bakers (manufacture of meat pies) ...	1	3
Delicatessen shops ... ..	2	6
Total	42	84

(b) Storage and sale of ice-cream

Confectioners, etc. ... ..	83	23
Grocers, etc. ... ..	38	17
Fruiterers, etc. ... ..	5	7
Newsagents, etc. ... ..	3	2
Total	129	49

In addition to the above-named premises, there are 13 catering establishments where ice-cream is sold for consumption off the premises which are exempt from registration under existing law.

The arrangement was continued with the Borough Engineer whereby any plans of food premises generally, submitted for byelaw approval, were examined in this Department and comments made on any aspect of environmental hygiene involved. In general, these related to the provision of adequate light and ventilation, suitable sanitary accommodation, properly sited ablution facilities and the provision of suitable interior finishes to floors, walls and ceilings. Invariably co-operation by architects and builders has been good.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 - Sections 89 to 99 - Sampling and Analysis

One hundred and twenty-nine samples purchased by the sampling officers were submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst, forty-three being formal samples and the remainder taken informally. They covered a wide range of commodities and in only two cases were adverse reports made, these relating to a jar of imported mixed pickles and a bottle of camphorated oil. The incorrect labelling of ingredients was the offence in the case of the mixed pickles, but it was found on investigation that the importers concerned had already been approached on the subject and had undertaken to amend the labelling. The camphorated oil was found to be deficient in camphor, almost certainly due to the unsatisfactory capping of the bottle; small remaining stocks of this drug were withdrawn from sale. The chemist in question was warned by letter.

A sample of best bitter beer was not the subject of an adverse report by the Public Analyst, but he stated that, to qualify for use of the word "best", he would have expected a higher standard of bitter beer than was the case, although there is no statutory standard laid down. Later samples of the food revealed a consistently higher standard and no further action was indicated.

A table of the foods and drugs sampled during the year is set out on page 39.

Merchandise Marks Act, 1926 and Orders made thereunder

These Orders relate to the following imported foodstuffs:

Fresh apples; currants, sultanas and raisins; eggs (in shell); dried eggs; oat products; raw tomatoes; bacon and ham; dead poultry; meat; margarine; malt products; frozen or chilled salmon and sea trout; butter; honey.

They provide that on sale the goods shall bear an indication of the country of origin, the object being to give the purchasing public the opportunity of choosing between goods of Home, Empire or Foreign origin.



FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 - SAMPLING

(Public Analyst: D. D. Moir Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C.)

FOODSTUFFS	SAMPLES TAKEN				Total	Genuine	Adversely Reported upon
	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter			
Milk	5	2	2	2	11	11	-
Butter, Margarine	1	1	-	1	3	3	-
Cheese	-	1	-	-	1	1	-
Cream	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ice-cream	-	-	-	2	2	2	-
Cooking fats	2	1	-	2	5	5	-
Jams, Honey, etc.	1	1	-	3	5	5	-
Sauces & Pickles	-	3	-	1	4	3	1
Dried Fruit	-	1	1	3	5	5	-
Table Jellies, Blancmanges	-	2	-	1	3	3	-
Cakes & Confectionery	2	2	-	4	8	8	-
Flour	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
Rice	-	-	1	-	1	1	-
Tea	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
Soups	2	-	-	1	3	3	-
Flavourings & Colours	1	2	-	2	5	5	-
Condiments	-	2	-	2	4	4	-
Mixed Herbs	-	1	-	1	2	2	-
Sausages - Pork	2	1	-	3	6	6	-
Sausages - Beef	-	2	1	-	3	3	-
Meat Pies	3	-	-	-	3	3	-
Meat & Fish Products	5	-	2	8	15	15	-
Foods, Miscellaneous	3	1	1	5	10	10	-
Soft Drinks	8	-	-	1	9	9	-
Beer	-	-	-	2	2	2	-
Whisky	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
Gin	-	-	-	2	2	2	-
Drugs, various	2	4	1	7	14	13	1
TOTALS	39	27	9	54	129	127	2





Inspections in the earlier part of the year indicated an increasing ignorance on the part of shop-keepers, managers and assistants of the various Marking Orders. In consequence, in June a circular letter was sent to 174 local grocers, greengrocers, fishmongers and butchers, reminding them of the objects and requirements of the Orders. Subsequent visits revealed a definite improvement in the adequacy of the marking of the foodstuffs concerned; in no case was it necessary to recommend official action.

#### Milk and Dairies General Regulations, 1959

The entries in the Registers required to be kept in accordance with the Regulations are summarised as follows:-

##### Distributors:

(a)	With 3 dairies in the Borough	...	...	...	2
(b)	With dairies outside the Borough	...	...	...	5
(c)	With premises in the Borough	...	...	...	23
	(bottled milk sold in general shops)				

Of the three dairies, two were used only for the cold storage and distribution of bottled milk. The third is in premises equipped with a high-temperature short-time pasteurising apparatus and other modern fittings. Frequent inspections of these dairies were made during the year, with special attention to the last mentioned one; they were maintained in a satisfactory condition throughout the period. As has applied for several years now all milk sold in the Borough must be heat-treated, with the exception of farm-bottled tuberculin-tested milk. Frequent samples of the various grades were taken on a regular sampling basis, and only two results were unsatisfactory, these relating to farm-bottled milk produced outside the Borough.

A detailed report on the samples of milk taken in 1961 from producers and distributors, and submitted for bacteriological examination, is given in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

#### Hairdressers' and Barbers' Establishments

The premises used for the purpose of carrying on the business of hairdresser or barber in the Borough are subject to bye-laws made in 1954, under Section 135 of the Surrey County Council Act, 1936. These bye-laws require the persons carrying on the business to maintain cleanliness of the premises and of the instruments, towels, equipment and materials used therein. During 1961 no serious infringement of the bye-laws was noted. At the end of the year, the register of premises contained particulars of 14 men's and 28 women's establishments.

#### Factories Act, 1937, 1948 and 1959

The Table on page 41 shows in detail the various trades in the Borough that come within the scope of the Acts. During the year 110 inspections were made. The Register of factories has been further brought up-to-date and now contains 247 entries; in 10 cases defects relating particularly to sanitary accommodation and general cleanliness were discovered; defects in 10 factories were remedied. H.M. Inspector of Factories drew attention during the year to two cases involving defects which came within the sections of the Factories Act enforceable by the Local Authority.

#### Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

There is only one factory which is subject to the provisions of this Act - one in which spring mattresses are manufactured. This is registered in accordance with Section 2. No samples of rag flock or other fillings were taken during 1961.



Factories Act, 1937 - List of Factories  
on Register at end of 1961

	<u>Mechanical</u> <u>Power</u>	<u>No</u> <u>Mechanical</u> <u>Power</u>
Agricultural Engineers .. .. .	2	-
Art Leather Works .. .. .	1	-
Bakers .. .. .	12	-
Basket Work .. .. .	1	-
Book Binder .. .. .	1	-
Boot Makers and Repairers .. .. .	4	-
Brick Makers, etc. .. .. .	2	-
Builders and Contractors .. .. .	6	5
Cabinet Makers and Upholsterers .. .. .	6	-
Cork Disc and Insulation Manufacturers .. .. .	1	-
Corn and Seed Merchants .. .. .	3	-
Dairy (Milk Processing) .. .. .	1	-
Dressmakers and Milliners .. .. .	2	3
Dry Cleaners .. .. .	3	-
Engineers Automobile .. .. .	23	-
Engineers Electrical .. .. .	3	2
Engineers Light .. .. .	33	1
Essence Makers .. .. .	1	-
Film Processing .. .. .	1	-
Food Manufacturers .. .. .	3	-
Foundries .. .. .	3	-
Fullers Earth Works .. .. .	1	-
Fur Processing .. .. .	1	-
Furniture Repairs .. .. .	1	-
Gas Holder Station .. .. .	1	-
Glass Cutting and Paint Packing .. .. .	1	-
Hardware Assembly .. .. .	1	-
Hearthstone Works .. .. .	1	-
Hide Tanning .. .. .	1	-
Knacker's Yard .. .. .	-	1
Laundries .. .. .	4	-
Log Sawing .. .. .	1	-
Marquee and Tarpaulin Repairers .. .. .	1	-
Mattress Manufacturer .. .. .	1	-
Mineral Water Manufacturer .. .. .	1	-
Monumental Masons and Undertakers .. .. .	2	-
Motor Body Repairs .. .. .	8	-
Motor Cycle and Cycle Repairs .. .. .	2	3
Newspaper Fudging .. .. .	3	-
Photographic Works, etc. .. .. .	4	-
Plastics .. .. .	4	-
Precast Concrete Manufacturers .. .. .	1	-
Printers .. .. .	9	-
Public Works Contractor .. .. .	1	-
Radio Repairs .. .. .	-	1
Rust Proofing .. .. .	1	-
Sanitary Engineers .. .. .	2	2
Scale Repairers .. .. .	2	-
Sewing Machine Repairs .. .. .	2	-
Shoeing and General Smiths .. .. .	-	2
Shop Fitters .. .. .	1	-
Soldering Outfit Assembly .. .. .	-	1
Steel Wool Manufacturer .. .. .	1	-
Suitcase Manufacturer .. .. .	1	-
Tailors .. .. .	2	1
Thermometer Manufacturer .. .. .	1	-
Tinber Merchants .. .. .	3	-
Tyre Repairs .. .. .	1	-
Watchmakers .. .. .	2	1
Wax Refining Works .. .. .	1	-
Building Sites and Works of Engineering Construction	42	-
TOTALS	224	23





#### Housing Acts, 1957 & 1961

#### Housing Repairs & Rents Act, 1954 and Rent Act, 1957

#### Housing Subsidies Act, 1956

#### Slum Clearance (Compensation) Act, 1956

Housing work throughout the year involved the inspection of 258 houses; 10 were reported to the Council as unfit for human habitation and 33 were demolished as a result of earlier action. The bulk of the latter were houses in clearance areas in the centre of Redhill. During the year 43 families (129 persons) were rehoused from unfit houses.

In October a further unfit houses programme was adopted by the Council, the first five years' programme being practically completed. Phased over a further period of five years, the second programme involved 107 houses, about 85% of which it was estimated would be dealt with by clearance area action. By the end of the year detailed inspections were completed at 28 houses in the Ladbroke Road area of Redhill for inclusion in 3 clearance areas.

The number of applications for certificates of disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957, again fell during 1961, when only one of these was received. In this case the owner did not give any undertaking to carry out the repairs and a certificate of disrepair was issued.

#### Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958

#### House Purchase & Housing Act, 1959

Throughout the year the Inspectors continued to supervise work in connection with standard grants and 33 applications were dealt with, 29 being approved. Works of improvement were completed at 19 houses and, in consequence, the following improvements were achieved:- 11 baths in separate bathrooms, 16 washhand basins, 28 hot water supplies, improved watercloset accommodation in 6 cases, and 14 satisfactory food stores installed. One hundred and thirty-four visits of inspection were made in connection with this work generally.

Once again, experience throughout the year indicated that owners of tenanted houses were not taking advantage of the grants, and only two of the applications were in this category.

Liaison continued to be exercised with the Borough Engineer in proposals dealing with discretionary grant applications, and 94 such cases were referred to this Department for observations during the year. As a result of this close liaison and of past experience in this matter a useful code of standards has been attained covering such matters as general repair; measures against rising dampness; interior finishes to existing kitchens; thermal insulation of walls and floors; safeguards on combined water services; and exterior paving.

Consequent on this grant assistance generally, 138 housing units were brought up to a reasonable standard of both repair and amenity in 1961.

#### Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order, 1957

This Order deals with the inspection and licensing of boiling-plants used by collectors of waste food for animal feeding. Such waste food may spread foot-and-mouth and other animal diseases if not properly boiled for at least one hour.

Two new licences were issued in 1961, following the completion of works of improvement by the pig keepers concerned, the Council being satisfied that a proper standard had been achieved. One operator was found to have given up waste food boiling. Inspections of all waste food plants indicated that the requirements of the Order were being generally observed. Following a Ministry circular in June, emphasising the dangers from negligence in the handling and use of swill, letters were sent to all operators, reminding them of the need for constant care.

#### Complaints

The following is a summary of the complaints received during the year:-



Insanitary condition of premises	..	..	..	..	..	38
Defective dustbin	..	..	..	..	..	1
House drainage	..	..	..	..	..	11
Cesspools overflowing	..	..	..	..	..	4
Non-removal of house refuse	..	..	..	..	..	3
Rats or Mice	..	..	..	..	..	413
Other Vermin (Foxes, Badgers, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	2
Other insect pests	..	..	..	..	..	13
Wasps' nests	..	..	..	..	..	139
Unsound food (sold)	..	..	..	..	..	28
Keeping of animals, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	1
Smoke nuisance	..	..	..	..	..	5
Noise nuisance	..	..	..	..	..	3
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	63

### Notices Issued and Action Taken

The following Table is a statement of the notices dealt with during the year:-

#### Preliminary -

Outstanding on 1st January, 1961	..	..	..	..	109
Issued during year	..	..	..	..	188
Complied with during year	..	..	..	..	162
Statutory action necessary	..	..	..	..	-
Outstanding on 31st December, 1961	..	..	..	..	135

#### Statutory -

Outstanding on 1st January, 1961	..	..	..	..	-
Issued during year	..	..	..	..	-
Outstanding on 31st December, 1961	..	..	..	..	-

### Fairground Sanitation

Restrictions on the use of land at Reigate Heath and Earlswood Common meant that there continued to be fewer fairs and circuses operating for short periods in the Borough during the year. The provision of temporary sanitary accommodation and an emptying and cleansing service continued to be provided by the Borough Engineer at appropriate charges and, in consequence of this service and the close supervision maintained, standards continued to be good.

### Heating Appliances (Fire Guards) Act, 1952, and Regulations, 1953

This legislation deals with safety guards for electric, gas and oil space-heating appliances and manufacturers have long since adopted a standard in their guards, which invariably complies with the regulations. In consequence, it is becoming increasingly rare to find a contravention; none was found on inspections carried out during the year.

### Nuisances Abated, Defects Remedied, etc.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year, both voluntarily and in consequence of notices in respect of dwelling-houses, food premises, factories, and other business premises.





## Dwelling-houses

Roofs repaired .. .. .	13
Eaves-gutters and stack-pipes repaired .. .. .	13
Chimney-stacks rebuilt or repaired .. .. .	6
Pointing or otherwise weatherproofing of brickwork (houses)	6
Other causes of dampness remedied .. .. .	12
External paintwork renewed .. .. .	1
Drains examined or tested (primary inspections only) .. ..	68
Drainage systems repaired, extended or relaid .. .. .	32
Sink gully dishings renewed or repaired .. .. .	2
Blocked drains cleared .. .. .	15
Soil or ventilation pipes installed or renewed .. .. .	12
New W.Cs. installed .. .. .	11
W.C. apparatus renewed or repaired .. .. .	4
Sewage treatment plants or cesspools repaired .. .. .	5
Cesspools abolished, houses connected to sewer .. .. .	1
Rooms cleansed or redecorated .. .. .	2
Plaster of walls and/or ceilings repaired .. .. .	8
Floors, windows and doors repaired or renewed .. .. .	6
Food stores provided .. .. .	19
Sinks installed or renewed .. .. .	3
Washhand basins renewed or installed .. .. .	24
Waste pipes repaired or renewed .. .. .	2
Hot water supply installed .. .. .	28
Baths installed .. .. .	20
Dustbins renewed .. .. .	2
Accumulations removed .. .. .	1
Other nuisances abated .. .. .	15

## Food Premises

Sanitary accommodation improved .. .. .	1
Rooms cleansed and/or redecorated .. .. .	11
Plaster of walls and/or ceilings repaired .. .. .	5
Floors repaired or renewed .. .. .	4
Preparation tables repaired or renewed .. .. .	3
Washhand basins installed .. .. .	4
Ablution facilities otherwise improved .. .. .	1
Sinks renewed or installed .. .. .	1
Constant hot water supply installed .. .. .	6
Accumulations removed .. .. .	3
Dustbins renewed .. .. .	3
Other nuisances abated .. .. .	32

## Factories

Drainage systems improved .. .. .	-
Drainage to floors improved .. .. .	1
Sanitary accommodation improved .. .. .	3
Rooms cleansed .. .. .	2
Miscellaneous .. .. .	4

## Other Business Premises

New W.Cs. provided .. .. .	1
Blocked drains cleared .. .. .	2
Drainage system improved or repaired .. .. .	11
Washhand basins installed .. .. .	11
Other nuisances abated .. .. .	3



# Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 - Rodent Control

The results of the year's work under this heading are shown in the tabulated statement given below.

	<u>Local</u> <u>Author-</u> <u>ity</u>	<u>H</u> <u>Dwelling</u> <u>Houses</u>	<u>Agri-</u> <u>cul-</u> <u>tural</u>	<u>All other</u> <u>(including</u> <u>Business &amp;</u> <u>Industrial)</u>	<u>Total</u>
I. Total No. of properties in Local Authority's district .. ..	38	15,920	50	2,856	18,864
II. No. of properties inspected during 1961 as a result of:-					
(a) Notification	10	385	10	78	483
(b) Survey	9	109	22	15	155
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for another purpose)	1	126	5	133	265
III. Total inspections, including re-inspections	877	3,037	224	978	4,892
IV. No. of properties inspected (under II) found to be infested by:-					
(a) Rats	19	323	17	72	431
(b) Mice	1	74	-	25	100
V. No. of infested properties (under IV) treated by Local Authority	20	395	17	97	529
VI. No. of "block control" schemes carried out.	4	21	3	3	31

H Council houses are included under dwelling-houses

The number of infestations dealt with showed an increase compared with 1960 mainly in residential property, but no general increase in the rodent population throughout the Borough was indicated. Infestations were mainly light and scattered, and quickly brought under control.

Rodent control on agricultural land, and inspections in connection therewith, were maintained throughout the year without any major problem. Period arrangements, on a quarterly charge basis, for regular disinfection by Pests Officers of the Department were continued with good results in six cases, at three agricultural holdings and at three business premises. Routine charges at business premises continued unaltered, the occupier being called upon to meet the cost of the treatment on a basis of 10/-d. an hour, with a minimum charge of 15/-d. In July a general review was made of Council charges, but no alterations were indicated under this heading as both service and charges were considered to be operating satisfactorily and economically.

Routine treatment of the sewerage system of the Borough was carried out during the year, when the results of tests made and poisoning carried out were again satisfactory; they indicated that rat infestation in the sewers continued to be minimal. Of 430 manholes tested only eight were found to give evidence of a local infestation, in each case quickly cleared by systematic poisoning. Regular control was carried out by the Pests Officers throughout the year at the Council's Refuse and Sewage Disposal Works, and on the banks of the stream flowing through Redhill and Earlswood.





The control work already detailed was exclusive of that carried out under contract arrangements with:

- (a) the Surrey County Council at all their premises in this Borough; these include St. Anne's, Redhill, and its ancillary homes, 32 schools and 14 school kitchens, day nursery, clinics, fire brigade premises, etc.;
- (b) the Group Hospital Management Committee at the Redhill County Hospital.

Apart from this rodent control work, the officers were engaged at Corporation property in dealing with other pests, such as rabbits, foxes, badgers, and moles. One hundred and thirty-nine wasps' nests were destroyed during the summer period, considerably less than in the preceding two years. The nuisance caused by the nesting of pigeons on buildings in the centre of Redhill was practically eliminated, as a result of the long and sustained trapping programme which has been continued for a number of years.

